

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 2001-803

March 26, 2002

RON GHIZ, ET AL.
Request for Commission Investigation Into
Bangor Hydro-Electric Company's Alleged
Frequent Power Outages in the Kirkland Road
Area of Old Town, Maine

ORDER CLOSING
DOCKET

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

I. SUMMARY

In this Order, we dismiss a complaint brought by Mr. Ronald Ghiz and 26 other persons (Complainants) as Bangor Hydro-Electric Company (BHE) has removed the cause of the complaint.

II. BACKGROUND

On November 14, 2001, the Complainants filed a complaint pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1302 about frequent outages of their BHE service on Kirkland Road in Old Town, Maine. BHE responded that it was aware of the problems and was working on a variety of solutions. In particular, it was aware of faults on Line 7, the sole source of power to the Orono substation. According to BHE, the route was difficult to access and repair so it planned a major reconstruction project to reroute the line. It expected the new line to be in service in early 2002. It also planned to review relocating a switch and conduct other testing in the area. BHE requested it be permitted to file reports to the Commission over the next few months describing its progress in eliminating outages on the Kirkland Road. The Lead Complainant, Mr. Ghiz agreed to this arrangement.

BHE subsequently reported that testing indicated no specific problems. BHE added a fuse link to ensure outages were limited to as small an area as possible and trimmed trees in the area. The Line 7 rebuild was completed at the end of February. On March 8, 2002, the Commission Staff contacted Mr. Ghiz and he stated that the complaint could be closed as service in the area had improved.

III. CONCLUSION

Based on the reports filed by BHE and Mr. Ghiz's reported experience, we will close this complaint as BHE has taken adequate steps to remove the original cause of the complaint.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 26th day of March, 2002.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Welch
 Nugent
 Diamond

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within **21 days** of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Appellate Procedure.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.